

Harrison Dance Company selected to perform at the National High School Dance Festival Gala Concert

Farmington, Michigan—Four members of the The Harrison Dance Company were selected to perform a small ensemble piece during the 22nd Anniversary of the National High School Dance Festival Gala Concert, on Thursday March 8 - Sunday March 11, 2012, at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA. This concert is considered the highest honor for dancers. High school groups performing in the concerts were selected based on an audition video sent to the National High School Dance Festival (NHSDF) organization in early December. More than 150 works from 57 schools from across the United States, Canada, Australia and Bermuda were viewed. *Passing Through* (Choreographed by Ray Mercer, cast of the Broadway production of the *Lion King*) was among the top 10 dances to be selected for a performance in the Gala. The following members of the Harrison Dance Company cast will be performing in *Passing Through*, Gillian Bradley (senior), Lydia Di Iorio (senior), Maurice Dowell (senior), Nadia Weeks (senior), and Breanna Williams (freshman). The Festival is presented by the NHSDF organization in conjunction with the University of the Arts and Artists Exchange International.

The Festival is four days of sharing, learning, performing and dancing with friends and colleagues from across the nation, as well as abroad. All 18 members of the Dance Company will participate in master classes and workshops, including ballet, jazz, modern, tap, hip hop, African, salsa, massage therapy, injury prevention, nutrition, pilates, yoga and more. Several of the juniors and seniors will also be auditioning for scholarships into more than 50 participating colleges and universities. The dancers will then have the opportunity to attend six concerts featuring student performers.